

From: ["Brelsford, Taylor" <taylor.brelsford@urs.com>](mailto:taylor.brelsford@urs.com)  
 To: ["Don Kuhle \(Don.P.Kuhle@usace.army.mil\)" <Don.P.Kuhle@usace.army.mil>](mailto:Don.P.Kuhle@usace.army.mil)  
[renos@DonlinGold.com](mailto:renos@DonlinGold.com)  
["Parkan, Kurt \\(\kparkan@DonlinGold.com\\)\" <kparkan@DonlinGold.com>](mailto:kparkan@DonlinGold.com)  
["Cobbs, Molly" <mcobbs@blm.gov>](mailto:mcobbs@blm.gov)  
[Jen.Mark@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Jen.Mark@epamail.epa.gov)  
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 Subject: Donlin EIS: Confirmation of discussions regarding communication on Donlin Gold travel support opportunity

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Friends,

Don asked that I sum up these discussions and get back to you all.

### Background

To recall, the Corps has explored several options to strengthen participation in the scoping meetings, in light of concerns first voiced by Evelyn Thomas of Crooked Creek about the villages that would not be host sites for a meeting. The EIS team has identified two secure options: teleconference access for all meetings, and a KYUK radio broadcast from Bethel on Monday January 14, 2013.

A third option involved the offer by Donlin Gold to provide support to duly appointed representatives of the neighboring villages so they could attend. The selection of up to three representatives for a village would be made by the Tribal Government, the City( if appropriate) and the Village corporation; not by Donlin.

The Corps reviewed this idea, and concluded that there is no barrier to this activity by Donlin gold, but it is external to the EIS process itself. The Corp has not directed Donlin to take action, and the Corps and the EIS Team would have no role in implementing the option.

### Briefing to Cooperating Agencies and Corps direction:

This idea was briefed to the cooperating agencies on Wednesday, December 19, 2012. Don described the Corps directions to the EIS Team, and Nick described the Donlin process, noting that this was similar to what Donlin has done in provide support to village representatives for trips to the Donlin Camp. The EIS Team role, was briefed at that time, was limited to informing the Tribe, City, and Village Corporation of this option, by providing the phone number at Donlin for follow up. BLM and EPA asked for additional time to consider this idea.

On Thursday, December 20, following additional input from BLM and EPA, Don provided new directions regarding how tom communicate with the communities about this option. The concern was to insure that the Dolin activity is understood to be separate from the Crops and the EIS Team activities. Additional discussion were held with Dolin (Kurt Parkan) on Thursday and Friday morning.

### Going Forward:

1. The primary responsibility to communicate with the communities (Tribe, City, Village corporations) about the opportunity for support on travel to scoping meetings, **will rest with Donlin**. They will post notice on their website, and make phone calls to village leaders.
2. The EIS Team (Moxie Alexie) role, during planned outreach calls to village leaders, is limited as follows:
  - a. Moxie **will not initiate** discussion of the Donlin offer of support to travel.
  - b. However, if asked, Moxie **may inform** the village leader that Donlin Gold support may be available and that the Council, Tribe, Corporation, should call Donlin Gold (Kurt Parkan) at 907-273-0200.
3. All discussion about implementing the offer to support travel is directly between the Tribe, City, and Corporation and Donlin Gold.

Thanks to all for working to strengthen the scoping meeting participation while avoiding (or minimizing) any perceived conflicts of interest.

Taylor Brelsford  
Senior Environmental Scientist/Planner  
URS Corporation  
700 G St., Suite 500  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Direct: 907-261-6705  
Fax: 907-562-1297  
Cell: 907-244-2992

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